

CLINICAL EVIDENCE REPORT

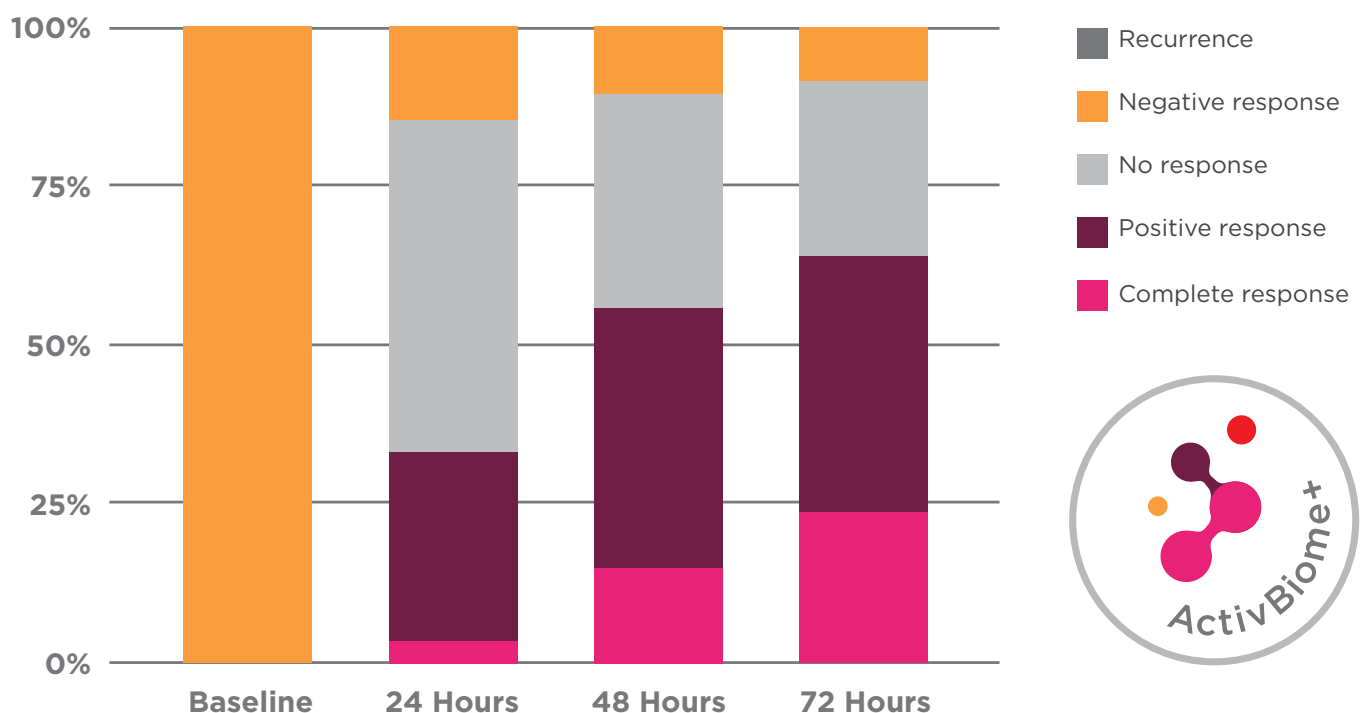
Client-owned cats with diarrhoea or constipation fed **Hill's Prescription Diet Gastrointestinal Biome Cat Food** in a multi-centre, blinded, controlled, longitudinal study demonstrated significant clinical improvements* **in as little as 24 hours.**

Wernimont, S.M. *et al.* Food with Specialised Dietary Fibre Sources Improves Clinical Outcomes in Adult Cats with Constipation or Diarrhoea *FASEB J.* 2020;34(1).

Results:

Significant improvement* in veterinarian clinical assessments in as little as 24 hours

Cats fed Hill's Prescription Diet Gastrointestinal Biome Cat Food



*Veterinarian assessments over time are significantly different vs. baseline ($p < 0.05$)

These results demonstrate that **Hill's Prescription Diet Gastrointestinal Biome Cat Food** significantly improves veterinarian-assessed clinical outcomes in cats with diarrhoea or constipation in as little as **24 hours**.

Additional significant findings:

- Significantly more cats fed Hill's Prescription Diet Gastrointestinal Biome Cat Food had a positive or complete response over the study period than cats fed the Control Food (p <0.01).
- Veterinarians did not report any negative assessments for cats fed Hill's Prescription Diet Gastrointestinal Biome Cat Food after Day 28. This suggests a reduction in recurrence.
- None of the cats experienced recurrence of constipation or diarrhoea during the 8 week study period.

Implications for practice

These results demonstrate that Hill's Prescription Diet Gastrointestinal Biome Cat Food begins to work quickly to improve diarrhoea or constipation in client-owned cats, within 24 hours. Additionally, the majority of cats with diarrhoea or constipation fed Hill's Prescription Diet Gastrointestinal Biome Cat Food are likely to have a positive or complete response within 72 hours*.

Supplementary study information

Study subjects

- 43 client-owned cats
- Mean age on test food 8.7 years, mean age on control food 8.0 years
- Average body weight of cats on test food 4.95 kg (10.89 lbs), control food 4.91 kg (10.80 lbs)

Methods

A 56 day prospective, randomised, blinded, positive controlled study was conducted with 43 client-owned cats with diarrhoea or constipation. Cats were recruited from 22 veterinary clinics across the United States. The eligibility of each cat was assessed by medical drug, and dietary histories, physical examination, and laboratory analysis of blood and urine. Cats were excluded from this study if they were under 1 year of age, had systemic disease, including kidney disease (IRIS stage 3 or greater), were unwilling or unable to exclusively consume the study food, had megacolon or were otherwise unlikely to benefit from a fibre supplemented food, chronically used colonic motility drugs, or were currently receiving oral antibiotics or probiotics and were unwilling to discontinue. Enrolled cats were randomised to one of two complete and balanced dry dietetic foods (easy-to-digest Control Food or Gastrointestinal Biome) for 56 days. Fibre

sources in the Control Food included traditional fibre sources used in pet foods, such as: cracked pearled barley, ground whole grain corn, dried beet pulp, fructooligosaccharides (FOS) & psyllium seed husk. Gastrointestinal Biome included FOS, psyllium seed husk and a unique combination of fibre sources, rich in antioxidant and anti-inflammatory compounds, such as: pecan shells, dried beet pulp, flaxseed, dried citrus pulp, pumpkin and pressed cranberries. Veterinarians performed physical examinations, evaluated clinical signs of constipation or diarrhoea and rated the cat's response to the study food at days 1, 2, 3, 4, 28 and 56 using a defined scale (Negative Response, No Response, Positive Response, and Complete Response). Pet owners evaluated stool quality on a daily basis, and recorded stooling behaviours and quality of life on days 1, 14, 28 and 56. Statistical comparisons over time were analysed compared to baseline, as well as between foods over time.

Key conclusions

Hill's Prescription Diet GI Biome Cat Food is effective in improving clinical outcomes in cats with constipation or diarrhoea, some **in as little as 24 hours**. Fibre sources rich in antioxidant and anti-inflammatory compounds were more effective than traditional fibre sources in improving clinical response in cats with diarrhoea or constipation.



*Some cats with constipation may require multimodal therapy depending on severity of constipation and underlying cause. Veterinary clinical judgement should be used when assessing the need for multimodal therapy for each cat.